



REPORT
ON
THE CONDITION AND PROGRESS
OF THE
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY IN IRELAND,
FOR THE YEAR 1880-81.

BY
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF LEINSTER,
CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



DUBLIN:
PRINTED BY ALEX. THOM & CO., 87, 88, & 89, ABBEY-STREET,
THE QUEEN'S PRINTING OFFICE.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1881.

[C.—3027.] *Price 1d.*

CONTENTS.

	Page
REPORT,	3
APPENDIX:	
I. Report of Public Meeting of the Queen's University in Ireland, held in St. Patrick's Hall, Dublin Castle, on 13th October, 1880,	5
II. Estimate of the Sum required to defray the Expenses of the Queen's University in Ireland for the year ended 31st March, 1881,	8
III. Cash Account of the Queen's University, for the Year ended 31st March, 1881,	8
IV. Meetings of the Senate,	9

REPORT.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY FRANCIS THOMAS DE GREY EARL
COWPER, K.G., &c., &c., &c.

LORD LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR OF IRELAND.

Queen's University, Dublin Castle,

June 1, 1881.

May it please your Excellency,

As Chancellor of the Queen's University in Ireland, it becomes my duty, in compliance with the provisions of Her Majesty's Charter, to furnish to your Excellency the Report of the Condition and Progress of the University since the 1st June, 1880.

The General University Examinations during the period of this Report commenced on the 20th of September, and terminated on the 11th of October, 1880. Examinations for Degrees in the Faculty of Medicine were also held in June, 1880, and First University Examinations in Arts and Engineering were also held in January, 1881. At these various Examinations 748* Candidates presented themselves.

In addition to these Examinations for Members of the University, Examinations of Candidates who are not Members of the University were held in the month of June, 1880.

The principal public meeting of the University, to confer degrees and diplomas, and distribute prizes, was held in St. Patrick's

* In this number the candidates who underwent more than one distinct University Examination within the year are enumerated separately.

App. I. Hall, Dublin Castle, on the 13th of October last. An account of the proceedings is appended to this Report.

The following papers are also annexed for your Excellency's information :—

App. II. The Estimate for the year.

App. III. The Cash Account for the year.

App. IV. A Return of the several Meetings of the Senate since my last Report.

I have the honour to be

Your Excellency's

Obedient and faithful Servant,

LEINSTER,

Chancellor.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX I.

Appendix.

PUBLIC MEETING of the QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY in IRELAND, held in St. Patrick's Hall, Dublin Castle, on the 13th October, 1880.

*L.
Public
Meeting.*

AFTER the close of the Examinations of the year 1880, a public meeting of the Queen's University was held in Dublin Castle on the 13th October, for conferring degrees, diplomas, and prizes.

A large number of distinguished persons having taken their places in St. Patrick's Hall, His Grace the Duke of Leinster, Chancellor of the University, the Senate, the Professors and Examiners, and the Candidates, entered it in procession.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF LEINSTER, Chancellor of the University, opened the meeting with the following address :—

We have assembled to-day to celebrate the 31st anniversary meeting of the Queen's University, and it gives me pleasure to be in a position to state that our annals present throughout a record of steadily-improving labour, for the advancement of higher education in Ireland. In the 31 years which close to-day, the University has given instruction to 7,472 students. Of the students in the earlier years of the University, in the first 10 or 11 years of our history, nearly one-third were non-matriculated students. In the second decade, and still more in the third decade, the number of this class of students has rather decreased, while the total number of students has greatly increased, thus showing an increased proportion of the more serious class of students, the matriculated students, who are now about nine-tenths of the whole number of students. Another circumstance which strengthens the conclusion that the students of the Queen's Colleges have become prevaillingly earnest students, is elicited by an inquiry into the length of their stay of late years under instruction. Careful statistics were prepared some time ago, extending over the ten preceding years, which showed that the students of the University remained on an average somewhat more than three years under instruction. This leads to the conclusion that the statistics of the University represent valuable educational work. When allowance is made for the few non-matriculated students who are still under instruction, it appears that of the students who pursue a regular course of instruction, somewhat less than one-half have actually received degrees in the University. It must not be supposed, however, that the matriculated students who have not graduated consisted only of such as fail to reach the standard required by the University, for it frequently happens that a student who has pursued a portion of one of our regular curricula, finds himself thereby so well fitted, if he is a student of ability, for lucrative employment, that he is by this drawn away from the University before graduating in it. This has been particularly noticeable in the Faculty of Engineering. I may observe that, contrary to what has sometimes been supposed, the greatest number of graduates of the

*Appendix.*I.
Public
Meeting.

University have been graduates in Arts. The graduates in Arts number 1,088. Next to these come our graduates in Medicine, 988 in number, of whom 133 are also graduates in Arts; and lastly, 179 degrees of Bachelor in Engineering have been conferred. It is to be observed that in the Queen's University degrees in both Arts and Medicine can be procured only by going fully through both faculties, and are, therefore, within the reach of but few students. I have not included in this survey the higher degrees, or degrees in the Faculty of Law, which are only conferred upon candidates who have already graduated in Arts, and which represent a great amount of additional work. Nor have I included the further qualifications which may be attained by graduates in Medicine. I turn now to the records which have been placed in my hands of our labours within the academic year which this day closes. Here again everything betokens steady advancement. I was able last year to announce that the number of students then on our rolls was the largest number yet reached. It has again this year advanced from 929 to 958. The number of entrances into our colleges has also advanced. Similarly the number of matriculated candidates presenting themselves at the University examinations of the year has been 771, as compared with 744 last year, and less numbers in preceding sessions. Thus in every direction the numbers that present themselves to the University are still on the increase, as they have been now for several years. There is one respect in which the present year does not compare favourably with last year. The examiners are of opinion that in some departments the prevailing preparation of the candidates has not been of as high a standard this year as it was last year. Accordingly, I observe that those who have satisfied the strict requirements of our examiners are 33 fewer this year than last year, being in the two years respectively 493 and 526. It must be remembered, however, that the prevailing character of the answering last year was reported to me as unusually good, and we cannot expect to maintain without some fluctuation the highest position that has been reached. Moreover, there are many of the candidates this year who have deserved high commendation, as the list of those who will this day be called up to receive their well-earned prizes will show—more especially the prize essay on “The Poetry of Wordsworth,” to which has been awarded the Peel Prize, open to the competition of undergraduates, has been reported to the Senate as of unusual merit. It was written by Mr. Walter M. Fisher, an undergraduate in Medicine, of Queen's College, Galway. During the present academic year we have to deplore the deaths of two eminent members of the Senate, Sir Dominic Corrigan, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, and its representative on the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, and Mr. James Gibson. To the memory of Sir Dominic Corrigan our gratitude is especially due. Though he was immersed in the duties of a laborious profession, in which he attained the highest position, he was yet ever ready to devote his time and to employ his powerful intelligence in advancing the interests of this University. The University will this day exercise its powers of conferring honorary degrees on Dr. Curtis and Mr. Niven, who after having rendered distinguished services to the University for many years, have passed into other spheres of usefulness; upon Professor Maxwell Simpson, whose important scientific discoveries reflect honour on the University; upon Professor Maguire, whose eminence in literature is widely known by classical scholars; upon Mr. O'Connor, the able Assistant Secretary of the University, who had served it loyally for twenty-two years; and upon Professor Owen O'Bryan, a distinguished

graduate as well as professor in the University. The Secretary of the University will now call up the candidates upon whom the several degrees are to be conferred, and his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant has signified his intention that he will then do the University the honour of conferring its prizes.

The degrees and prizes were then conferred, the former by the Chancellor, and the latter by the Lord Lieutenant.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF LEINSTER said—I wish to express in the name of the Senate, the thanks of the Queen's University to his Excellency, for his great kindness in attending here to-day, and the honour he has done to the recipients of the prizes in conferring those prizes on them.

The Lord Lieutenant, who was received with applause, in returning thanks, said—May it please your Grace, Ladies, and Gentlemen, it gives me the greatest pleasure to be here to-day, and to perform duties which, during the last thirty years, have been so frequently performed by my predecessors. That pleasure is mingled with a certain amount of regret, when I feel that it will probably be the last such occasion. Of course I do not speak from any authority—I only speak from what I hear and read. It is not for me to express an opinion as to what ought to be done, or whether this great University ought to come to an end or not. I had, as you know, nothing to do with the decision—it was not even arrived at by the Government to which I may say I belong. Without expressing any opinion on the subject as to whether it was right or wrong, I can well understand the feeling of many here present, when they think of the possible approaching execution of their *Alma Mater*. I can myself understand the feelings of anybody towards a University under whose auspices they have acquired knowledge and gained distinction. I know myself from experience how warm those feelings are. I can only express the hope that whatever may happen to this University, at all events the colleges which belong to it may have a long and successful career before them. I may also express a hope that whatever may happen, those who now form the governing body of this University may have either, under the same or in another manner, as frequent opportunities of usefulness as they have hitherto had. I would wish, being surrounded by so many young men here, to address a few remarks to them. We all know how often in the course of years in all parts of the United Kingdom, advice is given by those very often more capable of offering advice than I am, and of even higher standing before the public, to those who have been successful and also to those who have not. But, however trite these remarks may be, there is still a certain freshness on these occasions when one is reminded of many things by the faces he sees around him, and partly by the recollection of one's own early ideas which those occasions bring to one's mind. In seeing the degrees conferred and the high honours granted, as I have seen them to-day, one is inclined to think of the love of fame which is so great a stimulant, not only to the young, but to men of all ages, and which is so great an auxiliary in assisting to combat the too great love of pleasure and the too great love of ease. Far be it from me to disparage so noble a passion, and one which has assisted men to accomplish such great things. I need not say, I am sure, to any of those who have just obtained those distinctions, and I am sure they will agree with me, that the real satisfaction comes partly from the feeling that you have had the means of gaining the good opinion of those whose good opinion you value, and partly that

Appendix.
I.
Public
Meeting.

*Appendix**I.
Public
Meeting.*

you consider them as a proof of really honest, hard work, and of ability displayed. There is only one other step which, I have no doubt, many of you have taken towards the attainment of what is really necessary to the happiness of every man—that is, really to aspire not so much for the praise of others, because that is a building of a very rickety foundation, and you are always liable by a mere accident to lose it; and the man that builds upon that puts himself at the mercy of misrepresentation and misapprehension; but the real thing worthy of striving for is not the praise of other people, but the feeling in one's own mind that one's self is worthy of praise. I heartily congratulate all those who have obtained honours; and with regard to those who have not succeeded in obtaining honours—who appear before the public in the happy position, but who have not attained quite so high honours as they expected—with regard to them on these occasions I am always reminded of a speech of Lord Palmerston, delivered many years ago, and which struck me forcibly at the time. He said, a man's career is generally divided into two portions—a period of success and a period of failure. The great difference between one man and another is exhibited much more in the period of failure than in the period of success. To bear disappointments, to retrieve mistakes, to be always ready to try again, not to be disheartened—this is what really proves the stuff a man is made of, and makes the difference between one man and another. I will not detain you longer, but only express the pleasure it has given me to attend here to-day.

The proceedings then concluded.

APPENDIX II.

*II.
Estimate*

ESTIMATE of the Sum required to defray the Expenses of the QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY in IRELAND, for the year ended 31st March, 1881.

	£
Salaries,	1,409
Examiners' Stipends,	1,767
Examiners' Expenses,	761
Medals and Prizes,	1,047
Incidental Expenses,	233
	<u>5,208</u>

APPENDIX III.

*III.
Cash
Account.*

CASH ACCOUNT of the QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, for the year ended 31st March, 1881.

<i>Dr.</i>	£	s	d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£	s	d.
Forward from last Account,	16	9	10	Official Salaries,	1,390	10	1
Net payments from the Ex- chequer during the year,	4,364	17	7	Examiners' Stipends,	1,777	6	0
Fees collected during the year,	828	15	0	Examiners' Expenses,	662	7	11
				Medals and Prizes,	939	12	6
				Incidentals,	266	1	9
				Balance at the end of the year,	162	4	2
	<u>5,208</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>		<u>5,208</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>

APPENDIX IV.

MEETINGS OF THE SENATE.

Appendix.

IV.
Meetings of
the Senate.

Special Meeting of Senate and Public Meeting of the University, June 21, 1880.

Present :

Sir Robert Kane, LL.D., F.R.S., Vice-Chancellor, in the chair.
President Sullivan, PH.D., of Queen's College, Cork.
Professor Maxwell Simpson, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S.
John Thomas Banks, M.D.
President Moffett, LL.D., of Queen's College, Galway.
Professor Allman, LL.D.
Hans M'Mordie, M.A.
President Porter, D.D., of Queen's College, Belfast.
G. Johnstone Stoney, D.Sc., F.R.S., Secretary to the University.

Stated Meeting of Senate, June 21, 1880.

Present :

Sir Robert Kane, LL.D., F.R.S., Vice-Chancellor, in the chair.
President Sullivan, PH.D., of Queen's College, Cork.
Professor Maxwell Simpson, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S.
John Thomas Banks, M.D.
President Moffett, LL.D., of Queen's College, Galway.
Professor Allman, LL.D.
David Ross, M.A., LL.B.
Hans M'Mordie, M.A.
President Porter, D.D., of Queen's College, Belfast.
G. Johnstone Stoney, D.Sc., F.R.S., Secretary to the University.

Meeting of Senate, October 5, 1880.

Present :

His Grace the Duke of Leinster, Chancellor, in the chair.
Sir Robert Kane, LL.D., F.R.S., Vice-Chancellor.
President Sullivan, PH.D., of Queen's College, Cork.
Professor Redfern, M.D.
Professor Maxwell Simpson, M.D., LL.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.
President Moffett, LL.D., of Queen's College, Galway.
Professor Allman, LL.D.
David Ross, M.A., LL.B.
Hans M'Mordie, M.A.
Wm. Alexander M'Keown, M.D.
President Porter, D.D., of Queen's College, Belfast.
G. Johnstone Stoney, D.Sc., F.R.S., Secretary to the University.

Meeting of Senate and Public Meeting of the University, October 13, 1880.

Present :

His Grace the Duke of Leinster, Chancellor, in the chair.
Sir Robert Kane, LL.D., F.R.S., Vice-Chancellor.
President Sullivan, PH.D. of Queen's College, Cork.
Professor Redfern, M.D.
Professor Maxwell Simpson, M.D., LL.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.
John Thomas Banks, M.D.
President Moffett, LL.D., of Queen's College, Galway.
Professor Allman, LL.D.
Hans M'Mordie, M.A.
Wm. Alexander M'Keown, M.D.
President Porter, D.D., of Queen's College, Belfast.
G. Johnstone Stoney, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S., Secretary to the University.
Andrew M. Porter, B.A., Q.C.

Meeting of Senate, December 21, 1880.

Present :

His Grace the Duke of Leinster, Chancellor, in the chair.
Sir Robert Kane, LL.D., F.R.S., Vice-Chancellor.
The Lord Talbot de Malahide, F.R.S.
Professor Redfern, M.D.
John Thomas Banks, M.D.
President Moffett, LL.D., of Queen's College, Galway.
Professor Allman, LL.D.
Hans M'Mordie, M.A.
Wm. Alexander M'Keown, M.D.
President Porter, D.D., of Queen's College, Belfast.
G. Johnstone Stoney, D.Sc., F.R.S., Secretary to the University.

Meeting of Senate, April 12, 1881.

Present :

His Grace the Duke of Leinster, Chancellor, in the Chair.
Sir Robert Kane, LL.D., F.R.S., Vice-Chancellor.
John Thomas Banks, M.D.
President Porter, D.D., of Queen's College, Belfast.
President Moffett, LL.D., of Queen's College, Galway.
Professor Allman, LL.D.
Hans M'Mordie, M.A.
David Ross, M.A., LL.B.
G. Johnstone Stoney, D.Sc., F.R.S., Secretary to the University.